

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION & LOCAL RULES 2017

The following Conditions of Competition and Local Rules have been approved by the Executive and Championship Committees of the European Golf Association (EGA) and shall apply, with any additions or amendments as published at the golf course, to all EGA Championships under Rule 33-1 unless otherwise indicated. The full version of the Conditions will be posted at the venue and is available at www.ega-golf.ch. All references refer to the current English edition of the Rules of Golf as published by R&A Rules Limited.

I. CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

1. **Eligibility**
Players must meet the eligibility provisions cited in the relevant Championship Conditions.
2. **Driving Clubs / Conforming Golf Balls**
The specimen conditions in the Rules of Golf are in effect regarding Conforming Driver Heads (see pp. 154-155) and Golf Balls (see pp. 155-156).
3. **Groove and Punch Mark Condition**
The specimen Condition in Decision 4-1/1 of the Decisions on the Rules of Golf is in effect.
4. **Pace of Play (Note 2 to Rule 6-7)**
 - a) **Time Allowed**
Each hole has been given a maximum completion time based upon the length and difficulty of the hole. The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes will be available prior to play.
Definition of Out of Position
The first group and any group after a starter's gap will be considered to be "out of position" if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes completed. Any following group will be considered "out of position" if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front.
Note: In making a decision on whether to time a "following group" that is out of position, leniency may be shown to a group that has not exceeded the time allotted for the number of holes completed.
 - b) **Procedure when Group is Out of Position**
 - i. If a decision is taken to time the group, each player in the group will be subject to individual timing by a referee. Each player in the group will be advised that they are "out of position" and are being timed.

- ii. The maximum time allocated per shot is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play:
 - on a par three hole;
 - an approach shot; and
 - a chip or putt.

The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach his or her ball, it is his or her turn to play and he or she is able to play without interference or distraction.

On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace his or her ball, repair ball marks and move loose impediments on his or her line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball and aligning the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

- iii. Timing ceases when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly.
Note: In some circumstances, an individual player or two players within a group of three may be timed instead of the entire group.

Penalty for Breach of Condition:

One bad time	Player will be warned by the referee and told that, if he or she has a further bad time, he or she will be penalised.	
Two bad times	Penalty of One Stroke	Match Play
Three bad times	Further Penalty of Two Strokes	Loss of Hole
Four bad times	Disqualification	Loss of Hole
		Disqualification

- c) **Procedure when Again Out of Position during Same Round**
If a group is "out of position" more than once during a round, the above procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalised if he has a second bad time before being advised of his earlier bad time.

- d) **Random Timing Without Warning When Group Not Out of Position**
In some circumstances, a group or an individual player may be timed without warning, including when a group is not out of position. In such cases of "random timing", the timing provisions and penalties set out in clause (b) above apply, except that a player will only be given a bad time if he exceeds 60 seconds to play a shot, with an extra 10 seconds given (i.e. 70 seconds in total) for the "first to play" shots referenced in (b) above.

5. Suspension of Play due to a Dangerous Situation (Note to Rule 6-8b)

The specimen condition in the Rules of Golf is in effect (see p. 158)

Note: A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signalled by a prolonged note of a horn. All other suspensions will be signalled by three consecutive short notes of a horn repeated. In either case, resumption of play will be signalled by two short notes of a horn, repeated.

6. Advice in Team Competitions (Note to Rule 8)

Each team may appoint a "Team Advisor" who may give advice to members of that team from either:

- a) a Team Captain, who must be an amateur golfer in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited; or
- b) another person who may or may not be a professional golfer.

Penalty for Breach of Condition a): Disqualification of Team.

Exception: The appointed person may not walk onto a putting green.

A Team Advisor must be identified to the Committee prior to the start of the Championship and the position must not be interchanged.

Note: A Team Captain may be named in addition to a Team Advisor, but then, only the Team Advisor may offer advice. Any other person accompanying the team is considered as a spectator and should behave accordingly.

Penalty for Breach of Condition:

Match Play - Loss of hole; Stroke Play - Two strokes.

Please also refer to the relevant Championship Conditions for information regarding caddying permissions.

7. Communication in Team Competitions (except International Matches)

The use of handheld transceivers (walkie-talkie) for communication purposes between Team Captains, Team Advisors and Team Players, is prohibited.

Penalty for Breach of Condition: Disqualification of Team.

8. Transportation

The specimen Condition in the Rules of Golf is in effect (see pp. 159-160).

9. Anti-Doping

All competitors are subject to the provisions of the International Golf Federation's Anti-Doping Policy. Any competitors who are taking medication and in doubt as to their clinical status should seek advice from the EGA Office not later than 30 days before the start of the championship.

10. Gender Policy

Any player not complying with EGA Gender Policy guidelines or refusing measures for gender determination as recommended by the host country's national sports council will be disqualified.

11. Return of Scorecards

Competitors must return their scorecards, in accordance with Rule 6-6b, to the area designated by the Committee as the "Scoring or Recording Area". A competitor's scorecard is deemed officially returned to the Committee when the competitor has left the Scoring or Recording Area.

12. Decision of Ties

The method for deciding ties is provided in the relevant Championship Conditions.

13. Results of the Competition / Competition Closed

When the final results are placed on the official notice board and/or results sheet, the results of the Championship shall be deemed to have been officially announced.

14. Behaviour

Players, captains and team advisors, should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times. Behaviour of the very highest order is expected by all players, captains or team advisors towards everyone involved in the Championship. Any player, captain or team advisor, breaching the EGA Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary action by the Championship Committee.

II. LOCAL RULES**1. Out of Bounds (Rule 27-1)**

- a) Beyond any wall, fence or line of white stakes defining the boundary of the course.
- b) On or beyond any white line defining the boundary of the course. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies on or over such a line.
- c) In or beyond any ditch defining the boundary of the course.

Note: Where out of bounds is defined by white stakes or fence posts (excluding angled supports), the out of bounds line is determined by the nearest inside points at ground level of such stakes or posts. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies over such a line.

2. Water Hazards (including Lateral Water Hazards) (Rule 26)

Water hazards are defined by yellow stakes or yellow lines; lateral water hazards by red stakes or red lines.

When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the boundary.

Note: Dropping Zones for Water Hazards:

Where there are dropping zones for water hazards, a ball may be played under Rule 26 or a ball may be dropped in the dropping zone nearest to where the original ball last crossed the margin of the hazard under penalty of one stroke.

For provisions, relating to the dropping or re-dropping a ball in a dropping zone, see the Note on pp. 152-153 in the Rules of Golf.

3. Ground Under Repair (Rule 25-1)

- a) All areas bounded by a white line or indicated by blue stakes. When both blue stakes and white lines are present, the stakes identify the area as ground under repair and the lines define the margin.
- b) Any area of damaged ground (e.g., caused by course machinery) that is considered by a rules official to be abnormal.
- c) Seams of cut turf; the specimen Local Rule in the Rules of Golf is in effect (p. 145).
- d) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- e) Erosional damage in bunkers caused by running water (wash-outs).
- f) Relief is available from interference to the lie of the ball or the area of intended swing from painted yardage markings situated in any closely-mown area through the green.

4. Immovable Obstructions (Rule 24-2)

White lined areas adjoining any areas defined as immovable obstructions are to be regarded as part of the obstruction.

5. Stones in Bunkers (Rule 24-1)

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions.

6. Turf Plugs on Putting Green

On any putting green, turf plugs of any size have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired under Rule 16 - 1c.

7. Temporary Power Lines or Cables

The specimen Local Rule in the Rules of Golf is in effect (see pp. 150-151).

8. Temporary Immovable Obstructions

The specimen Local Rule in the Rules of Golf, with any additions or amendments in the additional Local Rules published by the EGA, is in effect (see pp. 147-150).

9. Distance-Measuring Devices (Rule 14-3, Appendix I, Part B, p. 153 and Appendix IV, p. 181)

In all EGA Championships, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

10. Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green

Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:

When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.

The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.

This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

Penalty for Breach of a Local Rule:

Match Play - Loss of hole; Stroke Play - Two strokes